

FIG. 1 is a graph showing the failure rate of a system as a function of time. The curve starts at a high failure rate, decreases rapidly during the initial period, and then levels off into a constant failure rate period. The initial period is labeled "Infant mortality period" and the constant failure rate period is labeled "Normal life period". The curve then rises sharply during the final period, labeled "Wear out period".

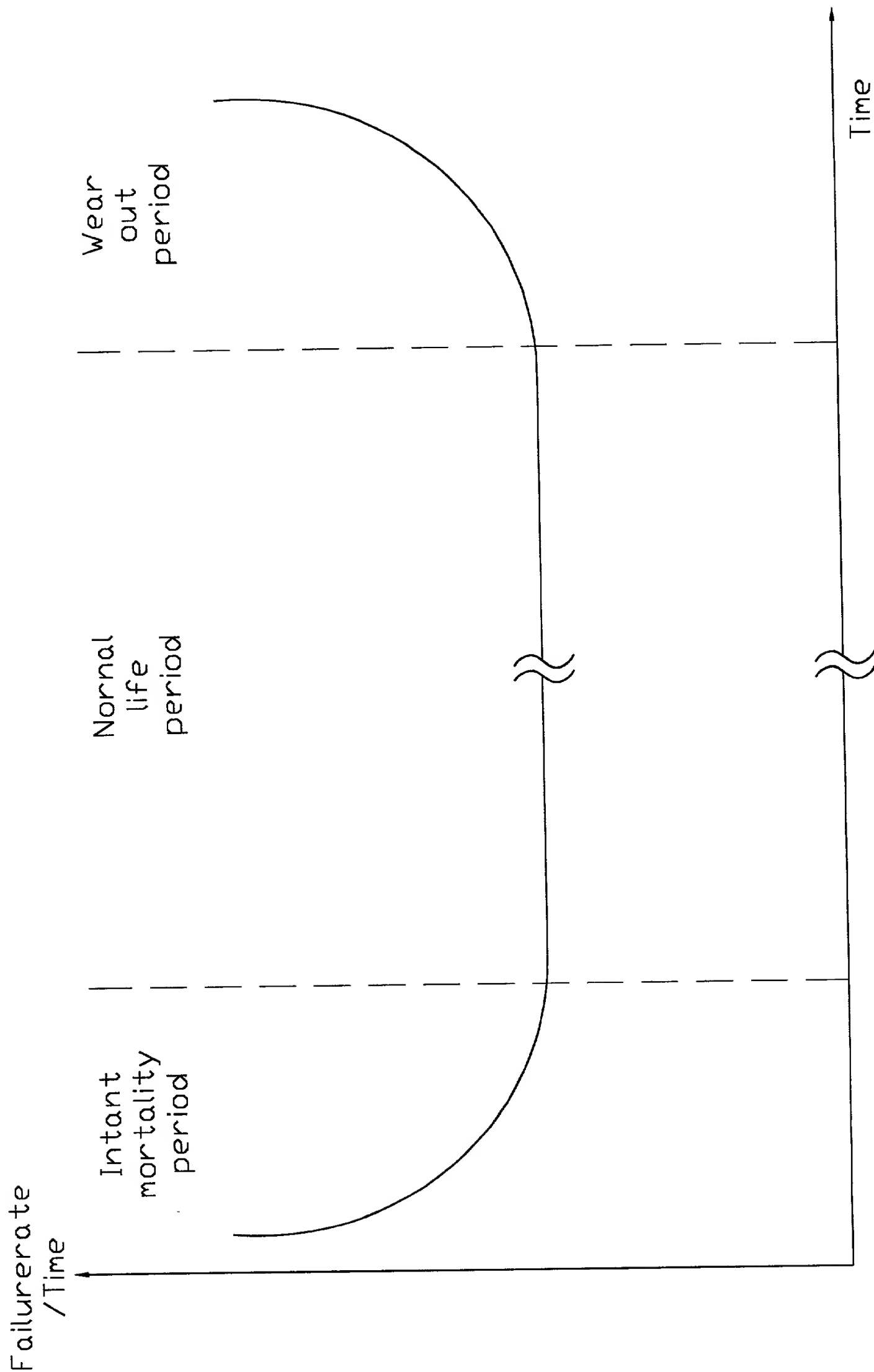


FIG.1(Prior Art)

87.168

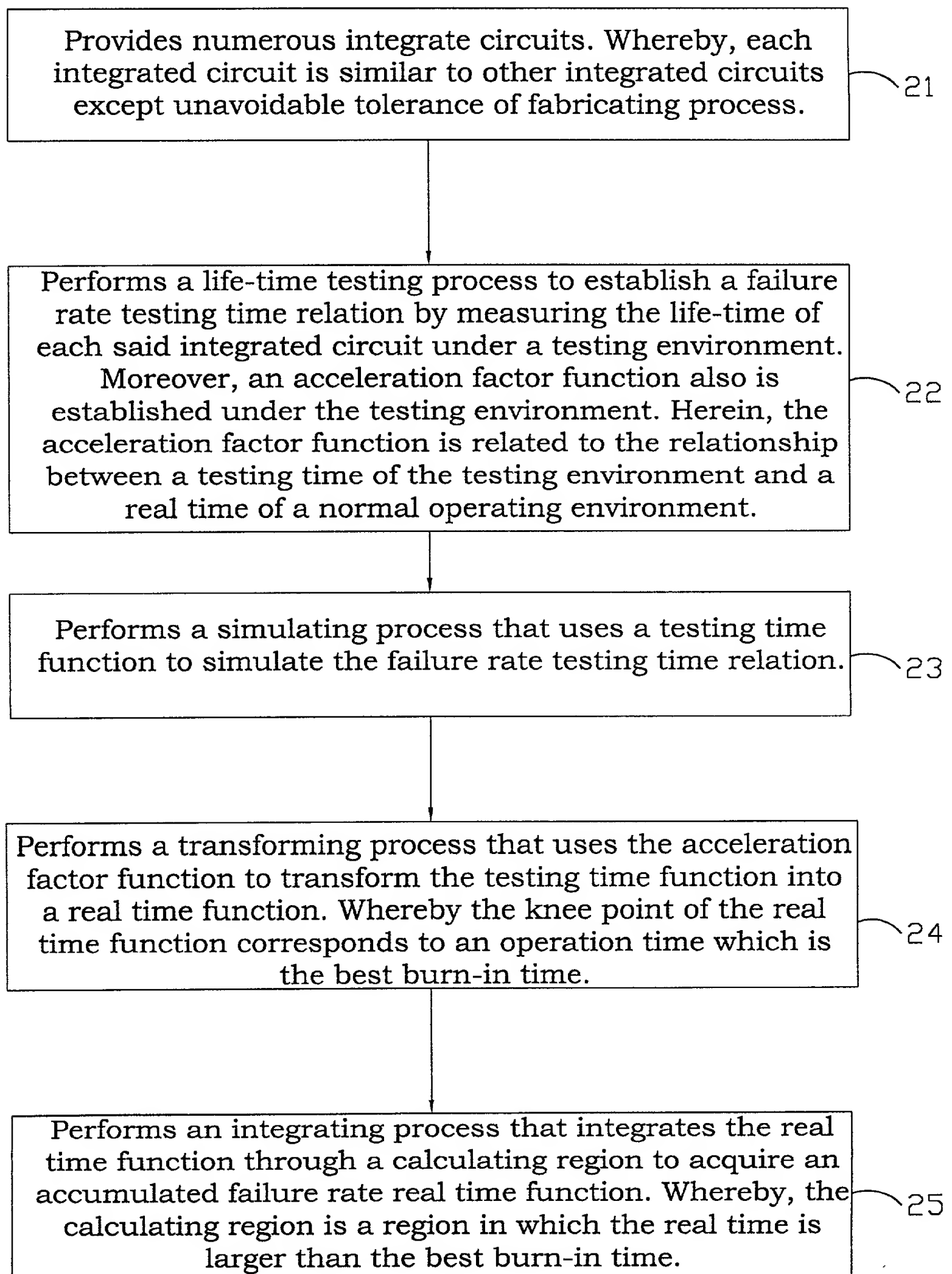


FIG.2

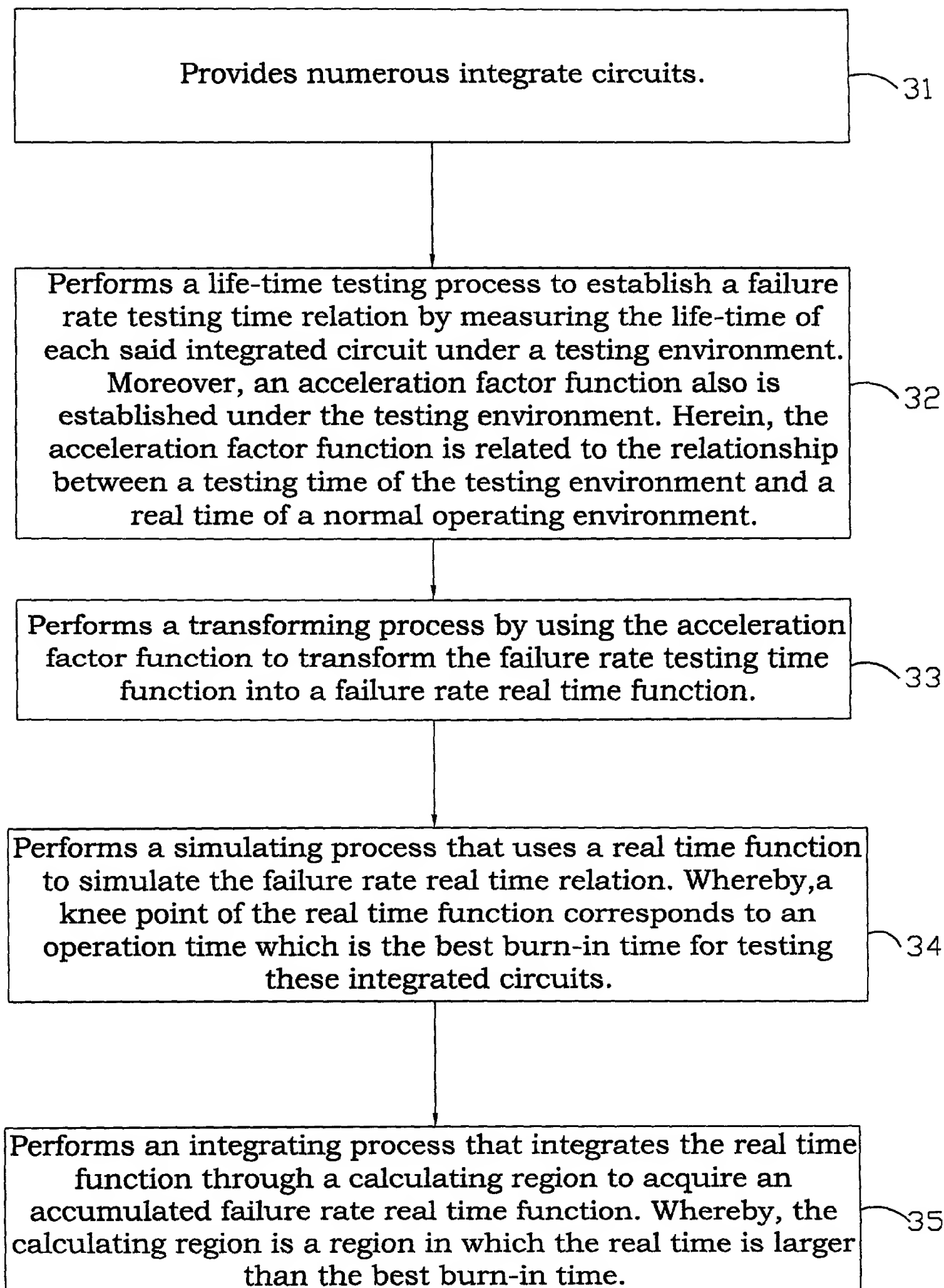


FIG.3

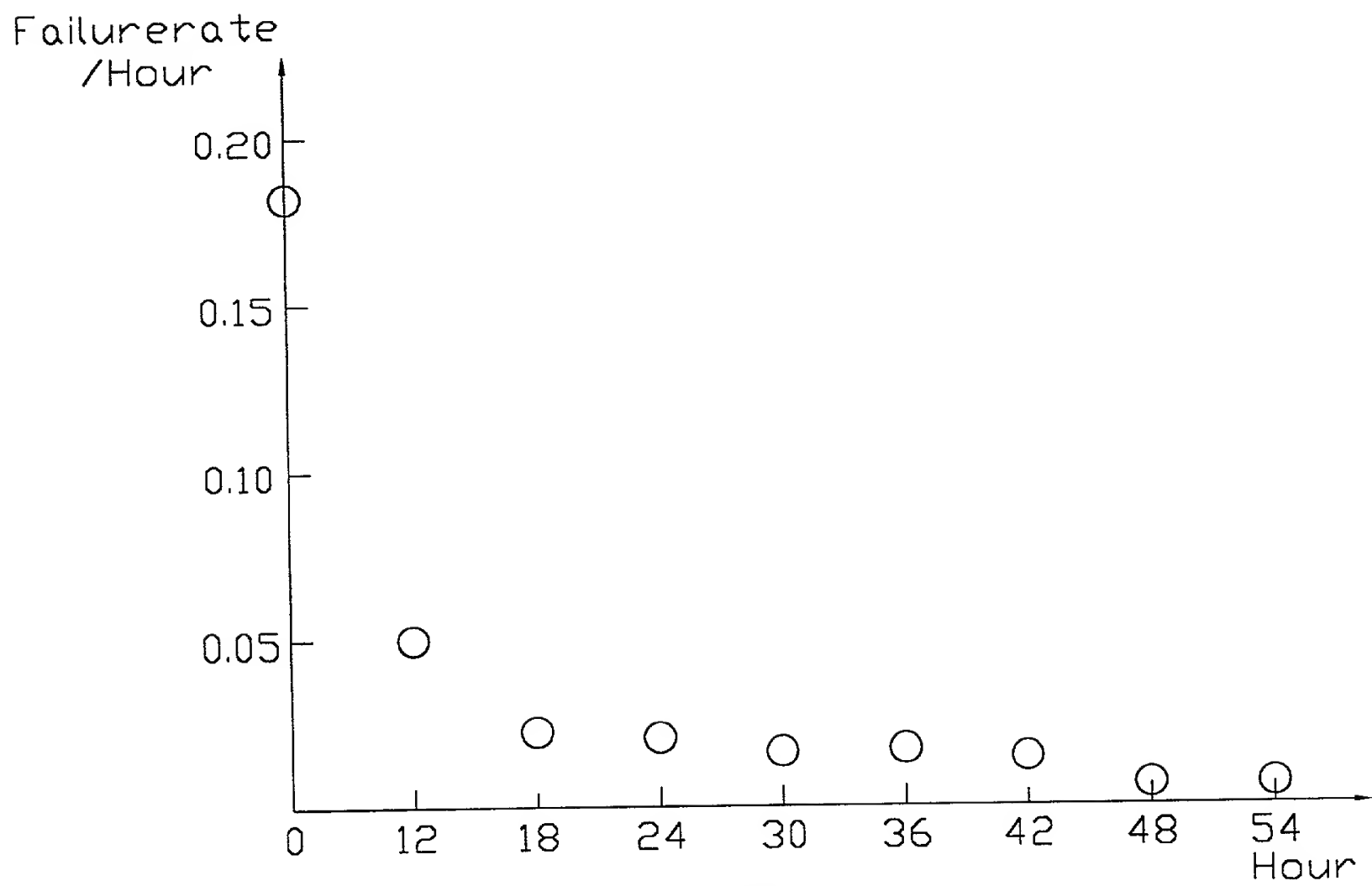


FIG.4A

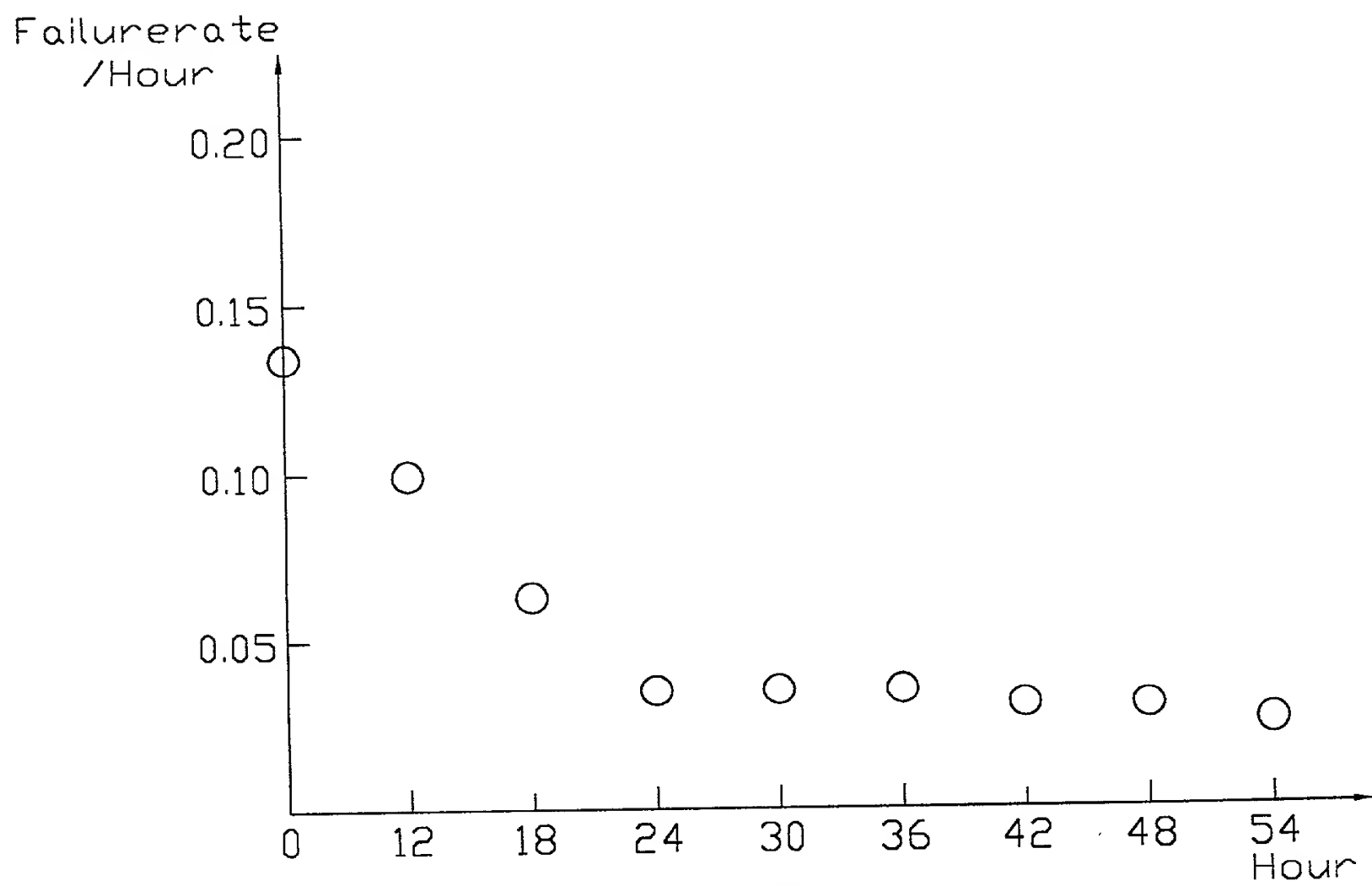


FIG.4B

